

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Western District of Washington

In the Matter of the Search of

(Briefly describe the property to be searched
or identify the person by name and address)

Information associated with One (1) Facebook Account that
is stored at Facebook, Inc., more particularly described in
Attachment A

Case No. MJ20-679

APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government, request a search warrant and state under penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the following person or property (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):

Information associated with One (1) Facebook Account that is stored at Facebook, Inc., more particularly described in Attachment A, incorporated herein by reference.

located in the Northern District of California, there is now concealed (identify the person or describe the property to be seized):

See Attachment B, incorporated herein by reference.

The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c) is (check one or more):

- ☒ evidence of a crime;
- ☒ contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed;
- ☒ property designed for use, intended for use, or used in committing a crime;
- ☐ a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully restrained.

The search is related to a violation of:

Code Section

21 U.S.C. 841, 846

Offense Description

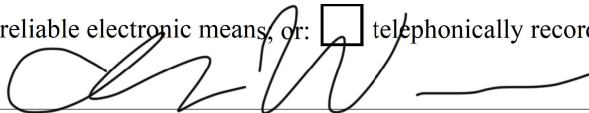
Distribution and Possession with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance and Conspiracy

The application is based on these facts:

- ☒ See Affidavit of Special Agent Alison Wassall, continued on the attached sheet.

☐ Delayed notice of _____ days (give exact ending date if more than 30 days: _____) is requested under 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set forth on the attached sheet.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1, this warrant is presented: ☒ by reliable electronic means, or: ☐ telephonically recorded.




Applicant's signature

Alison Wassall, Special Agent

Printed name and title

- ☐ The foregoing affidavit was sworn to before me and signed in my presence, or
- ☒ The above-named agent provided a sworn statement attesting to the truth of the foregoing affidavit by telephone.

Date: 10/22/2020



Judge's signature

City and state: Seattle, Washington

Brian A. Tsuchida, Chief United States Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

1 written investigative reports, and conducted and participated in interviews of drug
2 traffickers, of various roles within drug organizations, which has provided me with a
3 greater understanding of the methods by which drug trafficking organizations operate.

4 3. Prior to becoming a Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent, I
5 was employed by the Washington State Patrol, assigned to the Northwest High Intensity
6 Drug Trafficking Area in Seattle, Washington, as a Criminal Intelligence Analyst for
7 approximately three years. I received specialized training from the Drug Enforcement
8 Administration Basic Intelligence Research Specialist academy and received over 350
9 hours of classroom training. During my time as an analyst, I supported numerous state
10 and federal drug trafficking cases, assisted with the execution of both state and federal
11 search warrants, and was a participant with the Washington State Patrol Marijuana
12 Eradication Team. As a result of my experience in participating in search warrants as an
13 analyst, I have encountered and have become familiar with various tools, methods,
14 trends, paraphernalia, and related articles utilized by various traffickers in their efforts to
15 import, conceal, and distribute controlled substances. I am also familiar with the various
16 methods of packaging, delivering, and transferring of narcotics.

17 PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT

18 4. This affidavit is made in support of an application for a search warrant for
19 information associated with the following Facebook URL:

20 a. [https://www.facebook.com/jasielalonso.castrourias.1?tsid=0.404760](https://www.facebook.com/jasielalonso.castrourias.1?tsid=0.40476045206364564&source=result)
21 [45206364564&source=result](https://www.facebook.com/jasielalonso.castrourias.1?tsid=0.40476045206364564&source=result) (hereinafter, the “**Target Facebook Account**”), that is
22 stored at a premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Facebook, a social
23 networking company headquartered in Menlo Park, California.

24 5. The information to be searched and seized is described in the following
25 paragraphs and in Attachment A, attached hereto and incorporated herein. This affidavit
26 is made in support of an application for a search warrant under Title 18, United States
27 Code, Sections 2703(a), 2703(b)(1)(A) and 2703(c)(1)(A) to require Facebook to disclose
28 to the government records and other information in its possession, more thoroughly

described in Attachment B, attached hereto and incorporated herein, pertaining to the subscriber or customer associated with the Facebook account. As set forth below, there is probable cause to believe that the information sought would provide evidence of violations of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 and 846, as well as contraband or fruits of crime, property designed or intended for use in crime, and the location of a person to be arrested.

6. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of obtaining a search warrant for the Facebook account referenced above, I have not included every fact known to me concerning this investigation. Rather, I have set forth only the facts that I believe are necessary for a fair determination of probable cause and to show that there is probable cause to issue the requested warrant.

7. This affidavit describes intercepted Spanish-language communications. DEA linguists have translated those communications into English. Except where otherwise indicated, the quotations of communications below are the English translations of the original Spanish communications.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

8. I have obtained the facts set forth in this affidavit through my personal participation in the investigation described below; from oral and written reports of other law enforcement officers; and from records, documents and other evidence obtained during this investigation. I have obtained and read official reports prepared by law enforcement officers participating in this investigation and in other investigations by the DEA. When I refer to registration records for vehicles, I am relying on records obtained from the Washington State Department of Licensing (WA DOL). Insofar as I have included event times in this affidavit, those event times are approximate.

SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The T-III Wiretap Investigation into Delmer Velasquez-Licona

9. The United States, including the DEA, is conducting a criminal

1 investigation of a drug trafficking organization (DTO) operating in the Western District
2 of Washington which distributes narcotics, including heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine,
3 and fentanyl. Investigators believe Delmer Velasquez-Licona is a redistributor for the
4 DTO, Rodrigo Alvarez-Quinonez and Jasiel Alonso Castro-Urias are sources of supply
5 for the DTO, and Cesar Rojo-Gomez, Jorge Cruz-Hernandez and Jose Fernando Escoto-
6 Fiallos are narcotics associates of members of the DTO, as described herein.

7 10. Since late November 2019, investigators have received multiple court
8 authorizations in the Western District of Washington to intercept wire and electronic
9 communications to and from phones utilized by members of the DTO. As it pertains to
10 this application, these include:

11 11. On December 6, 2019, the Honorable U.S. District Court Judge Ricardo S.
12 Martinez signed an order authorizing the interception of the wire and electronic
13 communications over 206-231-8342/TT18.¹ Interception of TT18 began on or about
14 December 6, 2019. TT18 was utilized by Velasquez-Licona, a redistributor for the DTO.
15 Wire and electronic interceptions of TT18 ended on January 4, 2020.

16 12. On January 9, 2020, the Honorable U.S. District Court Judge James L.
17 Robart signed an order authorizing the continued interception of the wire and electronic
18 communications to and from 206-531-9979/TT18, and authorizing the initial interception
19 of the wire and electronic communications to and from 425-496-3287/TT19 (utilized by
20 Rodrigo Alvarez-Quinonez, a source of supply for the DTO) and 206-929-8743/TT23
21 (utilized by Gustavo Sandoval-Agurcia, a redistributor for the DTO). Interception of the
22 three phones terminated on February 7, 2020.

23 13. On July 29, 2020, the Grand Jury returned two indictments charging a total
24 of 15 defendants with drug-trafficking crimes, including Velasquez-Licona, Alvarez-
25

26
27 ¹ TT18 was originally assigned phone number 206-231-8342, however, according to T-Mobile, the phone number
28 was changed on December 20, 2019, to 206-531-9979. The IMSI remained the same for the phone and T-Mobile
continued to honor the T-III order until its expiration. The user of the phone remained Delmer Velasquez-Licona.

1 Quinonez, Cruz-Hernandez, Escoto-Fiallos, and Saul-Suarez, referenced in this Affidavit.
2 Those defendants were arrested on those charges on August 5, 2020.

3 December 12, 2019 – Suspected Intercepted Narcotics Transaction in Seattle,
4 Washington

5 14. On December 12, 2019, at approximately 2:40 p.m. (session #873), 206-
6 231-8342 (TT18/utilized by Delmer Velasquez-Licona) received an incoming phone
7 call from 206-429-0722 (TT20/utilized by Saul Suarez). During the call, Suarez asked
8 Velasquez-Licona, “if I get twenty of those animals how much would you give them to
9 me for?” Velasquez-Licona stated, “let me call the guy right now to find out.”

10 15. On the same date, at approximately 2:41 p.m. (session #874), TT18 placed
11 an outgoing call to 425-496-3287 (TT19/Rodrigo Alvarez-Quinonez). No one answered
12 the call. At approximately 2:42 p.m. (session #876), TT18 sent an outgoing text message
13 to TT19 which stated, “Sir, what’s up? Please, call me when you can.” At approximately
14 the same time (session #877), TT18 received an incoming text message indicating that
15 TT19 was unable to receive incoming text messages.

16 16. At approximately 2:44 p.m. (session #880), TT18 sent an outgoing text
17 message to TT20/Suarez which stated, “the man [likely Alvarez-Quinonez] is not
18 answering me, but I left him a message, I hope he answers me. I will let you know
19 soon.” At approximately 2:46 p.m. (session #883), TT20/Suarez responded to TT18, via
20 text message, “put pressure on him if the “work” is good, and that way a twenty can be
21 gone every two days.”

22 17. From approximately 2:59 p.m. to approximately 3:22 p.m. (sessions #884
23 through 887), TT18 attempted to call TT19/Alvarez-Quinonez four times with no
24 response.

25 18. At approximately 4:15 p.m. (session #898), TT18 received an incoming
26 phone call from 720-676-3911 (used by a suspected narcotics redistributor known only as
27 “Luis,” believed to be Cesar Rojo-Gomez). During the call, Velasquez-Licona stated, “I
28 don’t know what’s up, the guy asked me that, that, how much will you give them to him

1 for each one of them? Because the guy wants twenty.” The user of 720-676-3911 then
 2 stated, “I can tell to, to Cesarin [believed to be Castro-Urias²] to give you one of
 3 twenty.” Velasquez-Licona replied, “let me see if I can do this guy [likely Suarez] a
 4 favor since he called me asking me.”

5 19. At approximately 5:29 p.m. (session #899), TT18 received an incoming
 6 text message from TT20/Suarez which asked, “how is that situation going?” TT18
 7 responded at approximately 5:54 p.m. (session #902), “that dude [likely Alvarez-
 8 Quinonez] is not answering me, the phone seems turned off, but those guys from Mexico
 9 have two churros.”³

10 20. At approximately 6:03 p.m. (session #913), TT18 again tried to call
 11 TT19/Alvarez-Quinonez. No one answered the call.

12 21. At approximately 6:04 p.m., TT18 (206-231-8342, utilized by Velasquez-
 13 Licona at the time) placed an outgoing call to 720-676-3911, believed to be Rojo-Gomez.
 14 During the call, Velasquez-Licona stated to Rojo-Gomez that he had talked to a “guy”
 15 (likely Suarez) who had “five bucks” and Velasquez-Licona wanted to know what Rojo-
 16 Gomez thought. Rojo-Gomez told Velasquez-Licona to call “Cesar” (believed to be
 17 Castro-Urias) and tell him about it. Rojo-Gomez continued and stated Rojo-Gomez
 18 already talked to “Cesar” and “Cesar” stated if “he” (likely Suarez) had the “five bucks,”
 19 Velasquez-Licona could take “two” and Velasquez-Licona could get the other “one” out.
 20 Velasquez-Licona replied that he lost “Cesar’s” phone but Velasquez-Licona would call
 21 him (likely Castro-Urias) via Facebook now. Rojo-Gomez asked if “Calamardo’s”
 22 (likely referring to the **Target Facebook Account**); Velasquez-Licona replied yes and he
 23 would send him (likely Castro-Urias) a message on Facebook (believed to be the **Target**
 24 _____)

25 ² Throughout this investigation, investigators identified multiple nicknames for Castro-Urias, to include: “Cesar,”
 26 “Cesarin,” “Calamardo,” and “Kalamardo.” For simplicity in this affidavit, I will refer to
 27 “Cesar”/“Cesarin”/“Calamardo”/“Kalamardo” as Castro-Urias, which is further explained and detailed in the
 following sections.

28 ³ During a separate, unrelated, outgoing phone call with 206-742-2993 (session #856), TT18/Velasquez-Licona was
 intercepted stating that a “churro” contained approximately 20 ounces of heroin.

1 **Facebook Account**) now tell him to send Velasquez-Licona his (likely Castro-Urias's)
 2 number. Rojo-Gomez acknowledged.

3 22. Based on the aforementioned call, I believe⁴ Velasquez-Licona called Rojo-
 4 Gomez to arrange a future narcotics transaction likely involving Suarez. Based on my
 5 training and experience,⁵ I believe that when Velasquez-Licona stated Suarez had "five
 6 bucks," he was referring to five thousand dollars for an unspecified type and amount of
 7 narcotics. Furthermore, I believe that Rojo-Gomez is a narcotics associate of Castro-
 8 Urias, who Velasquez-Licona is attempting to contact regarding the anticipated narcotics
 9 transaction. Additionally, I believe that Velasquez-Licona told Rojo-Gomez that he
 10 would reach out to Castro-Urias through the **Target Facebook Account** to discuss the
 11 suspected narcotics transaction.

12 January 15, 2020: Consent to search of Red Kia Rio in Seattle, Washington

13 23. On January 15, 2020, at approximately 1:09 p.m., TT18 (206-531-9979,
 14 utilized by Velasquez-Licona at the time) received an incoming call from 52-668-103-
 15 8205 (utilized by "Cesar"/"Calamardo," believed to be Jasiel Alonso Castro-Urias,
 16 further explained below).⁶ During the call (session #3490), Castro-Urias stated, "We
 17 brought....and we brought it before December the 24th, before Christmas we brought it
 18 up, and the guy that brought it had to go back that same time, and he was the same guy
 19 that had the other stuff." Castro-Urias then continued, "And that guy went here to
 20 Mexico, and he was caught in Nogales and there he is tied up.....and who knows if when
 21 they will release him. I am trying to find the location of the house where he was living,
 22 or apartment. I am looking for the location because at that place there are a whole two
 23
 24

25 _____
 26 ⁴ For simplicity in this affidavit, when I refer to my beliefs, I am also referring to the beliefs of investigators more
 27 senior than I whom I have consulted with throughout this investigation.

28 ⁵ For simplicity in this affidavit, when I refer to my training and experience, I am also referring to the training and
 experience of investigators more senior than I whom I have consulted with throughout this investigation.

⁶ In previous affidavits, the user of 52-668-103-8205 was only known as "Cesar"/"Calamardo."

1 and a half and 5,000 pills.” Velasquez-Licona responded, “Yes, man, and I can help you
2 take that out, if you would want. You are the person who is in charge.”

3 24. During the same call, Castro-Urias inquired, “If I find you the location
4 would you go there? Everything was paid, there is no problem; the rent and
5 everything.” Velasquez-Licona responded, “I understand now. Is there any people
6 there?” Castro-Urias responded, “No, no there’s no one there. The dude came over here
7 but he’s tied up, they have him tied up here. I don’t know if he’s still alive.” Velasquez-
8 Licona stated, “Oh that’s fucked up. So how do we get there?” Castro-Urias responded,
9 “Well, that’s what I am trying to figure out. I keep calling the dude, but he doesn’t call
10 me back.” Castro-Urias then continued, “If I get, if I get the location and the apartment
11 number, can you head there?” Velasquez-Licona responded, “Yeah, we’ll head out there
12 to see what’s up.” Castro-Urias then stated, “For sure, it’s near Seattle, fifteen minutes,
13 apparently.”

14 25. At approximately 3:09 p.m., TT18 received an incoming call from 52-668-
15 103-8205. During the call (session #3502), Castro-Urias stated, “Right now they are
16 going to send to me; right now, they are going to send me the exact location from
17 there.” Castro-Urias continued, “When the lady gives me the address, I, I, am going to
18 send it to you via WhatsApp.”

19 26. At approximately 3:24 p.m., TT18 sent a text message to 206-476-3701
20 (TT21/utilized by Jose Fernando Escoto-Fiallos). The text message (session
21 #3507) inquired, “Dude, do you have a locksmith?” Moments later, TT18 called
22 TT21. During the call (session #3509), Velasquez-Licona asked Escoto-Fiallos, “Dude,
23 do you know who can open doors?” Velasquez-Licona continued, “Look those guys
24 have an apartment full of work, and the guy who was staying at the apartment the mafia
25 got him.” Escoto-Fiallos stated, “Let me text him [likely the locksmith] right now then.”
26 Escoto-Fiallos continued, “Let me get ahold of him, and I’ll wait to get back to you
27 shortly.”
28

1 27. At approximately 3:43 p.m., TT18 called TT21. During the call (session
2 #3515), Velasquez-Licona asked, “Is it possible?” Escoto-Fiallos responded,
3 “Yes.” Velasquez-Licona then asked, “But he has all the right tools, so he can’t make too
4 much noise?” Escoto-Fiallos told Velasquez-Licona, “Don’t worry for that because if
5 that’s his bread and butter is because he has everything.” Velasquez-Licona continued,
6 “We are going to go there by later tonight. I don’t know if you go in that car because
7 there are three kilos in there.” Velasquez-Licona later stated, “If there isn’t anything,
8 well, we’ll be unlucky, but anyway, at least some pieces of “white” or “dark” we’ll get
9 it.” Velasquez-Licona continued that, “This guy [the prior occupant of the apartment]
10 was killed. The mafia got him going back to Mexico.” Velasquez-Licona then stated,
11 “Another mafia, you know. They took the money and they killed him.” Velasquez-
12 Licona continued, “These guys, they, they, don’t want to lose that work.” Escoto-Fiallos
13 then asked, “So what time should it be then? Because it can’t be so, so dark because
14 otherwise, it would look so clear.” Velasquez-Licona then stated, “Make sure it is not too
15 loud with those things this guy [locksmith] is going to bring.” Velasquez-Licona then
16 stated, “The guy is going to let me know as soon as he gets the address.”

17 28. I believe that based on my training and experience, these intercepts are
18 clear that Velasquez-Licona was requesting assistance from Escoto-Fiallos to break into a
19 vacant apartment (at the request of individuals based in Mexico) to retrieve narcotics due
20 to the prior occupant possibly being killed by individuals possibly linked to cartels in
21 Mexico.

22 29. At approximately 3:55 p.m., surveillance was established in the area of
23 Velasquez-Licona’s residence: 14039 Greenwood Avenue North, Seattle, Washington,
24 and near Escoto-Fiallos’ suspected residence: 11338 3rd Avenue NE, Seattle,
25 Washington.

26 30. At approximately 4:34 p.m., TT18 called TT21. During the call (session
27 #3520), Velasquez-Licona told Escoto-Fiallos, “Come pick me up whenever you want,
28 but bring a hammer and a screwdriver.” Velasquez-Licona continued, “Apparently the

1 apartment door is open.” Velasquez-Licona continued that, “there are seven balls, there
2 are seven packages there.” Escoto-Fiallos stated, “Good.” Velasquez-Licona then again
3 told Escoto-Fiallos, “Find a, um, a hammer, then.”

4 31. At approximately 4:37 p.m., TT18 called TT21. During the call (session
5 #3521), Velasquez-Licona stated that, “It is at Rainier’s.” Escoto-Fiallos stated, “Okay
6 then I am almost there.”

7 32. At approximately 4:50 p.m., an investigator observed a green Nissan pick-
8 up truck at 11338 3rd Avenue NE, Seattle, Washington, Escoto-Fiallos’ suspected
9 address at the time. The license plate on the pick-up truck was later confirmed, via
10 remote electronic surveillance, to be WA/C37238P (TV2). Surveillance was maintained
11 on TV2. At approximately 5:07 p.m., an investigator observed TV2 depart the residence.

12 33. At approximately 5:11 p.m., TT21 sent a text message to TT18. The
13 message (session #3524) stated, “Let’s go.” At approximately 5:16 p.m., TT18 sent a
14 text message to TT21. The message (session #3530) stated, “I’ll be right out. I am
15 showering.” At approximately 5:18 p.m., I observed the Nissan pick-up (TV2) at
16 Velasquez-Licona’s residence, via remote electronic surveillance.

17 34. At approximately 5:35 p.m., TT18 sent a text message to TT21. The
18 message (session #3536) stated, “Jorge is going to go help search but do not tell him
19 about the money. We are going to keep it.” Based on the later events from this
20 surveillance, I believe that “Jorge” was referring to Jorge Cruz-Hernandez, a narcotics
21 associate of Velasquez-Licona, and user of TT22.

22 35. At approximately 5:46 p.m., I observed, via remote electronic surveillance,
23 three males, believed to be Velasquez-Licona, Cruz-Hernandez, and Escoto-Fiallos enter
24 into a red Kia Rio (WA/AUW0996/TV1) and depart the area. Surveillance was
25 maintained on the Kia. Tracking data for phones associated with all three individuals
26 (TT18/Velasquez-Licona, TT21/Escoto-Fiallos, and TT22/ Cruz-Hernandez) indicated all
27 three phones “travelled” with the Kia upon it departing Velasquez-Licona’s residence.
28

1 36. At approximately 6:30 p.m., the Kia arrived in the area of Rainier Avenue
2 South, just to the north of South Thistle Street, Seattle, Washington. An investigator
3 observed all three males exit the Kia and access the trunk of the vehicle. At
4 approximately 6:33 p.m., an investigator observed two of the males head towards a
5 building to the southeast of the car, before the third male joined them. Another
6 investigator confirmed the address the males accessed was 8416 Rainier Avenue South,
7 Seattle, Washington.

8 37. At approximately 6:59 p.m., TT18 received an incoming call from 719-
9 644-4597 (utilized by Cesar Rojo-Gomez). Rojo-Gomez is believed to be an associate of
10 Castro-Urias based on the context of this call. During the call (session #3541), Rojo-
11 Gomez asked, "How did it go?" Velasquez-Licona responded, "I am here inside, man,
12 looking and looking and there is nothing." Rojo-Gomez then stated, "Check for me
13 there, check for me there, right in there, inside that wall where they told you, there are
14 some there." Velasquez-Licona responded, "Oh, yes, in that wall where they told me, I
15 already extracted three balls of ten each, I think that's what they are, but...Calamardo
16 (likely Castro-Urias) says that there is more, but for now he told me to get out of here,
17 that he was going to call the lady so he can be sure about that, because he told me there
18 were 5,000 of the blue ones and no, no, I could not find anything." Velasquez-Licona
19 later stated, "I am going to video call you so he can see it." Rojo-Gomez then stated,
20 "Alright, so I can see what the deal is there, so I can tell you where...I know where they
21 all were there."

22 38. Based on my training and experience, this exchange was Rojo-Gomez
23 directing Velasquez-Licona (who was in the apartment) on where to search for the
24 suspected narcotics and money that Rojo-Gomez was told were inside the apartment.

25 39. At approximately 7:10 p.m., an investigator observed a male exiting
26 the area of the aforementioned address carrying a black gym bag. The investigator then
27 observed the individual enter the Kia. At approximately 7:24 p.m., the investigator
28 observed another male exit the area of the aforementioned address carrying a space heater

1 and multiple bags. The investigator then observed the male enter the driver's seat of the
2 Kia. At approximately 7:25 p.m., the investigator observed a third male exit the area of
3 the aforementioned address carrying a television.

4 40. At approximately 7:29 p.m., Seattle Police Department (SPD) North Anti-
5 Crime Team (ACT) initiated an investigative stop of the red Kia. Spanish speaking
6 SPD Officers were also present to assist with translation. A SPD Officer spoke with all
7 three subjects. The first male (who was detained and in handcuffs) stated that his name
8 was Jorge Cruz-Hernandez, however he did not have any Washington State
9 identification. Cruz-Hernandez stated his friend had asked him to help him move some
10 stuff from his apartment. The SPD Officer then asked Cruz-Hernandez for consent
11 to search his vehicle. Cruz-Hernandez agreed to allow his vehicle to be searched and was
12 then advised of his Miranda rights by the SPD Officer.

13 41. A search of the vehicle was then conducted by SPD Officers.
14 Approximately 3.6 pounds of heroin were located inside a duffel bag, which was located
15 on the front passenger seat floorboard (field tested positive for heroin). Cruz-Hernandez
16 and Escoto-Fiallos denied the heroin was theirs. Velasquez-Licona then stated he did not
17 know what was inside the packages and that he was coerced into picking up the
18 heroin. Velasquez-Licona continued that the original owner of the apartment was killed
19 in Mexico. All three individuals were released pending further investigation.

20 DEA Phoenix Investigation: February 2020 Traffic Stop

21 42. During February 2020, DEA Phoenix conducted a traffic stop of a silver
22 2012 Chevrolet Malibu, bearing Arizona license plate CSV0192, in Phoenix, Arizona.
23 Subsequent to a narcotics canine alert, investigators located approximately 183 grams of
24 cocaine, approximately 123 grams of methamphetamine, approximately 317 grams of
25 heroin, approximately 317 blue M30 fentanyl pills, and approximately \$2,362.00 of U.S.
26 currency. On the same date, as a result of the traffic stop, investigators obtained a search
27 warrant for the residence at 2410 West Campbell Avenue, Apartment 137, in Phoenix,
28 Arizona.

43. Prior to the execution of the search warrant, DEA Phoenix conducted surveillance at the aforementioned apartment. At approximately 1:01 p.m., investigators observed a Hispanic female (HF) attempt to enter Apartment 137. Investigators detained the HF who spoke with investigators outside and nearby the apartment. The HF initially advised the investigators that she was looking for her friend's apartment to pick up a shirt from work. The HF then admitted she wanted to be truthful because she had her son in the car. The HF stated her boyfriend, "Jasiel," who lives in Mexico, messaged her asked her to swing by the apartment because one of his workers got stopped by the police. The HF initially stated she wanted to make sure everything was ok at the apartment. The HF stated she had arranged to rent the apartment for her boyfriend through her landlord and did not want to jeopardize where she was staying now. The HF also stated she thought the apartment was empty. After a consent search of the HF's phone, an investigator observed WhatsApp voice messages with Jasiel in which Jasiel asked the HF to remove money from the apartment. An investigator observed the phone number for Jasiel to be 52-667-498-9675. An investigator confronted the HF with this information and the HF stated she didn't want to get involved. The HF did provide a Facebook profile for Jasiel Alonso Castro-Urias at "<https://www.facebook.com/jasielalonso.castourias.1.>," the **Target Facebook Account.**

44. During the execution of the search warrant at the apartment, investigators located approximately 861 grams of fentanyl powder, approximately 3,800 blue M30 fentanyl pills, approximately 44 grams of heroin, approximately \$32,819 of U.S. currency, and a Ruger LC9 9mm handgun.

45. Investigators had previously intercepted multiple calls between TT18 (Velasquez-Licon), and 52-667-498-9675, the phone number for "Jasiel" in the HF's phone. Pursuant to the above information, investigators requested a voice comparison between 52-668-103-8205 (the number on which "Cesar" or "Calamardo" called Velasquez-Licon on January 15, 2020, described above) and 52-667-498-9675. DEA-

1 contracted linguists concluded the user of 52-668-103-8205 and 52-667-498-9675 to be
2 the same person, and investigators believe the user to be Castro-Urias.

3 Information Regarding the Target Facebook Account

4 46. Based upon the previous seizure in Arizona, investigators were able to
5 locate the **Target Facebook Account** for Castro-Urias.

6 47. While I cite the above examples as it likely relates to Castro-Urias
7 facilitating narcotics-related activities through the **Target Facebook Account**, Castro-
8 Urias appears to be careful about posting any illegal activity on his publicly available
9 Facebook page. During this investigation, investigators learned of the **Target Facebook**
10 **Account**, and have reviewed the publicly available content of the **Target Facebook**
11 **Account**. Multiple photos of Castro-Urias are available on the page, however, no
12 criminal or asset information has been displayed. As noted, photos are displayed for
13 public viewing, and have been “posted” during the investigation, spaced out by several
14 months. Recently, on August 21, 2020, two photos were “posted” for public viewing; in
15 comparison, the previous photo was “posted” on December 13, 2019. Based on these
16 recently posted two photos, I believe the Facebook page is still utilized by Castro-Urias.

17 48. Based on my training and experience, traffickers will utilize Facebook and
18 its messaging service “Facebook Messenger” to communicate with each other and to
19 facilitate their narcotics trafficking activities. At times, even when investigators are
20 intercepting phone conversations with targets, investigators will not get all of the
21 communications of the target due to the target’s use of email and third party
22 applications, such as “WhatsApp” and/or Facebook.

23 49. In addition, Castro-Urias is believed to be in Mexico. Facebook retains
24 Internet Protocol (“IP”) logs for a given user ID or IP address. These logs may contain
25 information about the actions taken by the user ID or IP address on Facebook, including
26 information about the type of action, the date and time of the action, and the user ID and
27 IP address associated with the action. For example, if a user views a Facebook profile,
28 that user’s IP log would reflect the fact that the user viewed the profile, and would show

1 when and from what IP address the user did so. By following up on the IP address
2 information, an investigator may be able to determine the physical location that the
3 Facebook user was at when he or she accessed Facebook via the Internet. This
4 information will be particularly useful for potential future extradition operations.

5 **BACKGROUND RELATED TO FACEBOOK SOCIAL NETWORKING**
6 **SERVICES**

7 50. Facebook owns and operates a free access social networking website of the
8 same name that can be accessed at <http://www.facebook.com>. Facebook allows its users
9 to establish accounts with Facebook, and users can then use their accounts to share
10 written news, photographs, videos, and other information with other Facebook users, and
11 sometimes with the general public.

12 51. Facebook asks users to provide basic contact and personal identifying
13 information to Facebook, either during the registration process or thereafter. This
14 information may include the user's full name, birth date, gender, contact e-mail
15 addresses, Facebook passwords, Facebook security questions and answers (for password
16 retrieval), physical address (including city, state, and zip code), telephone numbers,
17 screen names, websites, and other personal identifiers. Facebook also assigns a user
18 identification number to each account.

19 52. Facebook users may join one or more groups or networks to connect and
20 interact with other users who are members of the same group or network. A Facebook
21 user can also connect directly with individual Facebook users by sending each user a
22 "Friend Request." If the recipient of a "Friend Request" accepts the request, then the two
23 users will become "Friends" for purposes of Facebook and can exchange
24 communications or view information about each other. Each Facebook user's account
25 includes a list of that user's "Friends" and a "News Feed," which highlights information
26 about the user's "Friends," such as profile changes, upcoming events, and birthdays.

27 53. Facebook users can select different levels of privacy for the
28 communications and information associated with their Facebook accounts. By adjusting

1 these privacy settings, a Facebook user can make information available only to himself or
2 herself, to particular Facebook users, or to anyone with access to the Internet, including
3 people who are not Facebook users. A Facebook user can also create “lists” of Facebook
4 friends to facilitate the application of these privacy settings. Facebook accounts also
5 include other account settings that users can adjust to control, for example, the types of
6 notifications they receive from Facebook.

7 54. Facebook users can create profiles that include photographs, lists of
8 personal interests, and other information. Facebook users can also post “status” updates
9 about their whereabouts and actions, as well as links to videos, photographs, articles, and
10 other items available elsewhere on the Internet. Facebook users can also post information
11 about upcoming “events,” such as social occasions, by listing the event’s time, location,
12 host, and guest list. In addition, Facebook users can “check in” to particular locations or
13 add their geographic locations to their Facebook posts, thereby revealing their geographic
14 locations at particular dates and times. A particular user’s profile page also includes a
15 “Wall,” which is a space where the user and his or her “Friends” can post messages,
16 attachments, and links that will typically be visible to anyone who can view the user’s
17 profile.

18 55. Facebook has a Photos application, where users can upload an unlimited
19 number of albums and photos. For Facebook’s purposes, a user’s “Photoprint” includes
20 all photos uploaded by that user that have not been deleted and other items.

21 56. Facebook users can exchange private messages on Facebook with other
22 users. These messages, which are similar to e-mail messages, are sent to the recipient’s
23 “Inbox” on Facebook, which also stores copies of messages sent by the recipient, as well
24 as other information. Facebook users can also post comments on the Facebook profiles
25 of other users or on their own profiles; such comments are typically associated with a
26 specific posting or item on the profile. In addition, Facebook has a “Chat” feature that
27 allows users to send and receive instant messages through Facebook. These chat
28 communications are stored in the chat history for the account. Facebook also has a Video

1 Calling feature, and although Facebook does not record the calls themselves, it does keep
2 records of the date of each call.

3 57. If a Facebook user does not want to interact with another user on Facebook,
4 the first user can “block” the second user from seeing his or her account.

5 58. Facebook has a “like” feature that allows users to give positive feedback or
6 connect to particular pages. Facebook users can “like” Facebook posts or updates, as
7 well as webpages or content on third party (i.e., non Facebook) websites. Facebook users
8 can also become “fans” of particular Facebook pages.

9 59. Facebook has a search function that enables its users to search Facebook for
10 keywords, usernames, or pages, among other things.

11 60. Each Facebook account has an activity log, which is a list of the user’s
12 posts and other Facebook activities from the inception of the account to the present. The
13 activity log includes stories and photos that the user has been tagged in, as well as
14 connections made through the account, such as “liking” a Facebook page or adding
15 someone as a friend. The activity log is visible to the user but cannot be viewed by
16 people who visit the user’s Facebook page.

17 61. Facebook Notes is a blogging feature available to Facebook users, and it
18 enables users to write and post notes or personal web logs (“blogs”), or to import their
19 blogs from other services, such as Xanga, LiveJournal, and Blogger.

20 62. The Facebook Gifts feature allows users to send virtual “gifts” to their
21 friends that appear as icons on the recipient’s profile page. Gifts cost money to purchase,
22 and a personalized message can be attached to each gift. Facebook users can also send
23 each other “pokes,” which are free and simply result in a notification to the recipient that
24 he or she has been “poked” by the sender.

25 63. Facebook also has a Marketplace feature, which allows users to post free
26 classified ads. Users can post items for sale, housing, jobs, and other items on the
27 Marketplace.
28

64. In addition to the applications described above, Facebook also provides its users with access to thousands of other applications on the Facebook platform. When a Facebook user accesses or uses one of these applications, an update about that the user's access or use of that application may appear on the user's profile page.

65. Facebook uses the term "Neoprint" to describe an expanded view of a given user profile. The "Neoprint" for a given user can include the following information from the user's profile: profile contact information; News Feed information; status updates; links to videos, photographs, articles, and other items; Notes; Wall postings; friend lists, including the friends' Facebook user identification numbers; groups and networks of which the user is a member, including the groups' Facebook group identification numbers; future and past event postings; rejected "Friend" requests; comments; gifts; pokes; tags; and information about the user's access and use of Facebook applications.

66. Social networking providers like Facebook typically retain additional information about their users' accounts, such as information about the length of service (including start date), the types of service utilized, and the means and source of any payments associated with the service (including any credit card or bank account number). In some cases, Facebook users may communicate directly with Facebook about issues relating to their accounts, such as technical problems, billing inquiries, or complaints from other users. Social networking providers like Facebook typically retain records about such communications, including records of contacts between the user and the provider's support services, as well as records of any actions taken by the provider or user as a result of the communications.

67. Therefore, the computers of Facebook are likely to contain all the material described above, including stored electronic communications and information concerning subscribers and their use of Facebook, such as account access information, transaction information, and other account information.

68. On July 30, 2020, I submitted a preservation request for the **Target Facebook Account** through Facebook.com.

REQUEST FOR NON-DISCLOSURE AND SEALING

69. The government requests, pursuant to the preclusion of notice provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2705(b), that Facebook be ordered not to notify any person (including the subscriber or customer to which the materials relate) of the existence of this warrant for such period as the Court deems appropriate. The government submits that such an order is justified because notification of the existence of this Order would seriously jeopardize the ongoing investigation. Such a disclosure would give the subscriber an opportunity to destroy evidence, change patterns of behavior, notify confederates, or flee or continue his flight from prosecution.

70. It is further respectfully requested that this Court issue an order sealing, until further order of the Court, all papers submitted in support of this application, including the application and search warrant. This is an ongoing investigation, and the targets do not know the details of what investigators have learned and what evidence has been gathered. Premature disclosure of the contents of this affidavit and related documents may have a significant and negative impact on the continuing investigation and may severely jeopardize its effectiveness by resulting in the flight of targets, the destruction of evidence, or the intimidation or influencing of witnesses.

CONCLUSION

71. Based on the forgoing, I request that the Court issue the proposed search warrant. This Court has jurisdiction to issue the requested warrant because it is “a court of competent jurisdiction” as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 2711, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2703(a), (b)(1)(A) & (c)(1)(A). Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(g), the presence of a law

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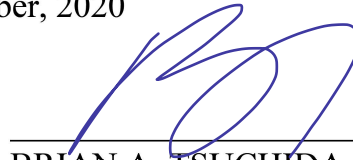
///

1 enforcement officer is not required for the service or execution of this warrant.

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5 ALISON WASSALL, Affiant
6 Special Agent, DEA
7

8 The above-named agent provided a sworn statement to the truth of the foregoing
9 affidavit by telephone on this 22nd day of October, 2020

10
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12 BRIAN A. TSUCHIDA
13 Chief United States Magistrate Judge
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ATTACHMENT A

Property to Be Searched

1. This warrant applies to information associated with the following Facebook user

URL:

<https://www.facebook.com/jasielalonso.castrourias.1?tsid=0.40476045206364564&source=result>;

that is stored at a premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by

Facebook, a social networking company headquartered in Menlo Park, California.

ATTACHMENT B

Particular Things to be Seized

I. Information to be disclosed by Facebook

To the extent that the information described in Attachment A is within the possession, custody, or control of Facebook, including any messages, records, files, logs, or information that have been deleted but are still available to Facebook, or have been preserved pursuant to a request made under 18 U.S.C. § 2703(f), Facebook is required to disclose the following information to the government for each user ID listed in Attachment A:

(a) All contact and personal identifying information, including full name, user identification number, birth date, gender, contact e-mail addresses, Facebook passwords, Facebook security questions and answers, physical address (including city, state, and zip code), telephone numbers, screen names, websites, and other personal identifiers.

(b) All activity logs for the account and all other documents showing the user's posts and other Facebook activities;

(c) All Photoprints;

(d) All Neoprints, including profile contact information; News Feed information; status updates; links to videos, photographs, articles, and other items; Notes; Wall postings; friend lists, including the friends' Facebook user identification numbers; groups and networks of which the user is a member, including the groups' Facebook group identification numbers; future and past event postings; rejected "Friend" requests; comments; gifts; pokes; tags; and information about the user's access and use of Facebook applications;

(e) All other records of communications and messages made or received by the user, including all private messages, chat history, video calling history, and pending Friend requests;

(f) All check-ins and other location information;

(g) All IP logs, including all records of the IP addresses that logged into the account;

(h) All records of the account's usage of the "like" feature, including all Facebook posts and all non-Facebook webpages and content that the user has liked;

(i) All information about the Facebook pages that the account is or was a "fan" of;

(j) All past and present lists of friends created by the account;

(k) All records of Facebook searches performed by the account;

(l) All information about the user's access and use of Facebook Marketplace;

(m) The length of service (including start date), the types of service utilized by the user, and the means and source of any payments associated with the service (including any credit card or bank account number);

(n) All privacy settings and other account settings, including privacy settings for individual Facebook posts and activities, and all records showing which Facebook users have been blocked by the account; and

(o) All records pertaining to communications between Facebook and any person regarding the user or the user's Facebook account, including contacts with support services and records of actions taken.

II. Information to be seized by the government

All information described above in Section I that constitutes evidence, fruits or instrumentalities of the crimes of Distribution of controlled substances, and conspiracy, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 846; (with respect to Jasiel Alonso CASTRO-Urias):

(a) any and all Wall Posts, private messages, status updates, chat history, friend requests, postings, photographs, or any other information, records, or other material or information that relates to drug trafficking, or activity related to or in furtherance of drug trafficking;

1 (b) any and all IP logs, including all records of the IP addresses that logged
2 into the account, and the dates and times such logins occurred, as well as any other
3 connection information;

4 (c) records relating to who created, used, or communicated with the user ID,
5 including records about their identities and whereabouts;

6 (d) financial records and information, including but not limited to money
7 transfers or wires to Mexico;

8 (f) information identifying the names, location, or other contact information of
9 people in contact with suspected drug traffickers;

10 (g) any information, records, or other material relevant to firearm possession of
11 trafficking by Jasiel Alonso CASTRO-Urias; and

12 (h) any information, records, or other material relevant to the whereabouts of
13 Jasiel Alonso CASTRO-Urias.